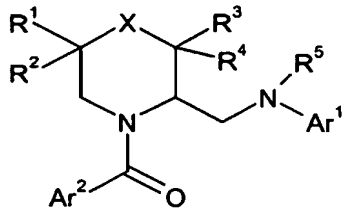
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

X is O, CR^7R^8, NH or bond;

R^1 and R^2 are both hydrogen, both optionally substituted (C_{1-4}) alkyl, or are together with the carbon to which they are attached form a (C_{3-6})cycloalkyl ring or a 4- to 6- membered heterocyclyl ring.

R^3 and R^4 are both hydrogen, both optionally substituted (C_{1-4}) alkyl, or are together with the carbon to which they are attached form a (C_{3-6})cycloalkyl ring or a 4- to 6- membered heterocyclyl ring;

R^7 and R^8 are both hydrogen, both optionally substituted (C_{1-4}) alkyl, or are together with the carbon to which they are attached form a (C_{3-6})cycloalkyl ring or a 4- to 6- membered heterocyclyl ring;

provided that one pair of R^1 and R^2, R^3 and R^4, R^7 and R^8 are both optionally substituted (C_{1-4}) alkyl, or are together with the carbon to which they are attached form a (C_{3-6})cycloalkyl ring or a 4- to 6- membered heterocyclyl ring and the remaining groups are hydrogen;

R^5 is hydrogen, optionally substituted (C_{1-4}) alkyl, or optionally substituted (C_{1-4})alkylCO;

Ar^1 is an optionally substituted aryl, an optionally substituted mono or bicyclic heteroaryl group containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S;

Ar^2 represents phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl group containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, wherein the phenyl or heterocyclyl group is substituted by R^6 and further optional substituents; or Ar^2 represents an optionally substituted bicyclic aromatic or bicyclic heteroaromatic group containing up to 4 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S;

R^6 represents hydrogen, optionally substituted(C_{1-4})alkoxy, halo, cyano, optionally substituted(C_{1-6})alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl, or an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl group containing up to 4 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein X is CR^7R^8.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2 wherein R^1, R^2, R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen when R^3 and R^4 are methyl or R^3, R^4, R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen when R^1 and R^2 are methyl.

4. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein Ar^1 is pyrimidinyl or pyridinyl.

5. A compound according to claim 4 wherein the pyrimidinyl or pyridinyl is substituted with halogen.

6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein the halogen is bromine.

7. A compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of Examples 1 to 44, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any one thereof.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. A method of treating or preventing diseases or disorders where an antagonist of a human orexin receptor is required, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. Use of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of obesity.

11. Use of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of sleep disorders.